

BUFORA NEWSFILE

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February 1997

DORSET EVENING ECHO

14 DEC 96

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Police officers see meteorite shower

POLICE at Dorchester were standing by for a deluge of UFO reports today after a night of spectacular meteorite showers in cloudless skies over West Dorset.

A number of officers on night-time patrols reported seeing the meteorites from 10pm onwards.

Dorchester Police Sergeant Malcolm Davenport said: "One of our rural beat officers,

PC Roy Jackson, who knows about this sort of thing, reported a particularly large shower over Broadmayne.

"Another officer at Litton Cheney saw something large fall from the sky which we also believe was a meteorite."

RUNCORN WEEKLY NEWS

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UFO signs help radio go on air

THE Halton (FM) UFO factor held at the War Memorial Club in Runcorn helped to raise funds for Halton College's student radio station, which will hit the airwaves early in 1997 on a month's restricted licence.

The conference was organised by Roger Ellison, a BTEC Media Student and also a paranormal investigator for the Halton area, and his partner in investigations, Mark Rosney.

Throughout the day the audience heard lectures by various UFO investigators from the Lancashire area on such subjects as sightings, abductions and military 'Black Projects'.

The speakers taking part were Roger Ellison, Mark Rosney, Anthony Eccles, Pauleene Delcou-Min, Arthur Tomlinson and Simon Lewis.

'Our thanks go out to all the speakers for giving their time free of charge and also to everyone who turned up on the day. Not only did they find out more about UFOs in the area, but they also helped to get a college radio station on the air,' said Roger.

If anybody wishes to report a sighting they should ring Roger on 0151 733 6364, or Mark Rosney on 01744 754314. All calls will be treated in confidence.

SOUTHERN DAILY ECHO

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Strange sighting in the evening sky

I AM writing to ascertain whether any UFOs were sighted over Fareham on Friday November 15 at approximately 4.15pm.

I have told friends about it and have had the mickey taken out of me constantly since. I have not witnessed any unusual phenomena before.

I was playing golf with three others at the time. It was getting dark and we were approaching the eighth hole and the sky was clear.

I noticed a large bright orange light over Fareham Civic Hall. It was still. I observed it for about 30 seconds and it didn't move. I turned away for between five and ten seconds, looked up again and it was nowhere to be seen. My partners saw this light but didn't share my curiosity.

We were approximately one mile from the civic building at the time, playing golf at Cams Hall. I would like to know if anyone else has reported a similar sighting on this date.
M J POIRIER, Fareham.

BRADFORD TELEGRAPH & ARGUS

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Explanation needed

SIR - With regard to a report several weeks ago about "UFOs" over the Wyke hills.

Mr partner and I have also seen this "carousel" of lights on numerous occasions. It is always when there is some cloud in the sky so I believe there is a perfectly logical reason for this. It appears to be either a reflection from something or possibly something like radio waves. The clouds act as a "screen" and whatever it is is projected on to it.

I must admit the first time you see these lights they can be quite alarming but you soon realise it is more intriguing than anything. I wonder if anyone could give us a logical explanation?

Miss M Romanowska, Bradford Road, East Bierley.

The X Files is one of the top rated shows on television – but it's not only in America where weird and spooky things happen. The North West has had its own share. Here, from the records of The Fortean Times, the magazine dedicated to all things strange, PHIL WIDDOWS presents the By 'Eck Files!

The X Files is a fiction, of course, but many of its stories are inspired by witnesses who swear they are true, and that they happened to them.

America is a natural breeding ground for such sensational tales of flying saucers, alien autopsies and remarkable coincidences, but the North West can boast its own stories that would stretch the investigative powers of FBI agents Scully and Mulder.

Only this week photographs supposedly showing the bodies of two dead aliens, a male and a female, were passed to Simon Lewis, a UFO investigator. The pictures were left in a sealed brown envelope in the toilets of the Headway Hotel in Morecambe and Simon was tipped off by a mystery man who made a timid phone call to the ufologist.

Simon said: "They are very exciting and, if they are genuine, then they could be one of the biggest revelations ever to hit the UFO investigation sphere." Fake or for real? Either way it's certainly not the first time something seemingly from another world has visited this corner of Earth.

In 1954, two schoolboys were walking on the fells in the Lake District near Coniston. Thirteen-year-old Stephen Darbshire and his eight-year-old cousin Adrian Myers were enjoying a carefree day of hiking, and Stephen had taken along a camera. Suddenly, the boys saw a strange object hovering over the fells above the village of Torver, and they were convinced it was a flying saucer. Stephen pointed his camera and snapped the UFO.

His father told the Press at the time: "Stephen is absolutely definite that he saw a machine of some sort and he is now getting annoyed because some people don't seem to be convinced."

Were aliens responsible for the strange lights in the sky and corn circles at Hindley near Wigan in August 1990? Local man Bill Heatock said he had seen strange flying lights and silver objects hovering over fields near his home.

Then in the early hours of the next morning, Mr Heatock and local youngsters David Hutchinson and Barry



True or false? Is this a flying saucer photo? And who or what made the mysterious crop circles found in Lancashire?



The truth IS out there...

Needham, discovered strange shapes which had been left in a nearby corn field. "We just watched the lights. I was terrified, really. So were the boys," he said.

Last summer a record number of corn circles were reported across Lancashire, and local expert Chris Kenworthy chartered a plane to spot the phenomena from the air. He discovered six, from Bretherton near Chorley to Preston; Sollom near Southport to Much Hoole.

In March 1977, two men reported seeing a vast black UFO covered with coloured lights in Nelson. Brian Grimshaw and an unnamed friend experienced intense downward pressure as it flew over them, and later complained of headaches and watering eyes.

On January 6 this year Capt Roger Wills and First Officer Mark Stuart were flying a British Airways jet from Milan to Manchester. As they made their approach to Ringway they

were buzzed by a strange craft that approached at high speed and passed silently down the starboard side of the plane. And finally a flying saucer story with a difference. In January 1991, Trevor Fisher of Blackpool had a close encounter – of the expensive kind. As he was driving down a road in the resort his car was suddenly violently shaken from below, not by a UFO but by a flying manhole cover!

A flash flood had swamped a sewer with a torrent of water which blew off the cover just as Mr Fisher drove over the top. It ripped through the gearbox and seats of his £11,000 Nissan, and smashed the windscreen. Miraculously he, his wife and daughter were all unhurt!



■ Tomorrow we investigate some of the more bizarre, freakish episodes of North West history. Plus there's a chance to win the latest X Files video and a year's subscription to that font of all weirdness, The Fortean Times.

We just watched the lights. I was terrified, really. So were the boys

Police pair in 10-mile UFO chase

By MIRROR REPORTER

STARTLED cops chased a UFO for 10 MILES before it gave them the slip, it was claimed yesterday. Sergeant Steve King and PC Andy Collier were caught in an "X-Files" mystery when they saw strange lights in the sky. They watched in disbelief as the weird object accelerated away over the North Sea at Holt, Norfolk.

The police called Norwich airport to see if an aircraft was in trouble, but were told no flights were in the vicinity. Airport officials logged it as an unidentified flying object.

Nearby Fakenham police station took 30 calls from people who had seen the UFO.

A spokesman said: "The officers had no explanation for what they saw." Ministry of Defence experts dismissed the lights as a "combination of the 200ft Boston Stump church tower and an electrical storm".

THE mystery surrounding a possible UFO sighting off the county coast deepened today.

The Echo has managed to get hold of a transcript of a conversation between police, RAF officials, the coastguard and a tanker boss which gives a blow-by-blow account of the unexplained events which took place.

We have also got hold of a snap-shot taken by Skegness police which clearly shows the bright light which suddenly appeared in the sky.

The mystery flying object was picked up by radar at RAF Neatishead in Norfolk and its movements were tracked for a number of hours from 3am on Saturday.

The conversation clearly reveals the confusion and excitement the unidentified object caused on the night.

Officials at the Ministry of Defence are now carrying out an investigation into the incident.

Here is the conversation between the different parties, word-for-word:

Skegness police: "We can see a strange red and green rotating light in the sky directly south east from Skegness. It looks strange as it is stationary and there is no aircraft sound in the area."

RAF Kinloss:

"Northwood have a radar contact bearing 221 degrees, at 16 miles, it looks to be stationary and there is no way of determining its height but it must be quite a size to be visible from Skegness."

Kinloss: "Neatishead now confirms a couple of radar contacts in the area but no height, they seem to be stationary. There are definitely no military aircraft in the area and no notified civil flights should be there."

Conocoast tanker: "We have these lights on

by Susan Ridd

Kinloss: "Well I visual, now they are flashing red, green and white. Cannot identify it as an aircraft as it looks stationary and it is approximately one mile high."

Yarmouth Coastguard: "Did you see from which direction it appeared?"

Conocoast: "Not it just appeared and is stationary."

Kinloss: "Neatishead say it could be caused by the weather."

Coastguard: "I don't think so as we have visual contact."

seems about 40-45 degrees up in the sky it is just a bright light to us."

Kinloss: "Neatishead are running a trace on this and cannot explain it. If they are helicopters they are fast approaching the end of their endurance as it is well over two hours since the first report let alone how long they were up there before they were actually sighted."

Conocoast: "It is still stationary and flashing red, green, blue and white. It looks very high, north of us, and there is no engine noise."

Coastguard: "Skegness, can you get video footage as the RAF are very interested and may require it later."

Kinloss: "Neatishead are keeping a log of what looks like clutter on the radar."

Yarmouth Coastguard: "Conocoast, can you give us an update?"

Conocoast: "We can see two lights flashing green and red."

Coastguard: "Give us both bearings of the two lights."

Conocoast: "There is one stationary light at 345 deg true and the other at 160 deg true, the lights are both visible with the naked eye and both exhibit the same characteristics flashing red, blue, green and white."

Boston police: "We can still see the light, it is London radar and Wadworth towards the south east and Wington can also see it."

Mystery of light in sky

Confusion at 'UFO sighting'

WELLINGBOROUGH & RUSHDEN CITIZEN

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'UFO' on film

AN UNIDENTIFIED flying object has been captured on film by an amateur cameraman.

• Weetabix worker Cliff Linnell spotted the UFO from the back garden of his Corby home.

• The father-of-three rushed indoors, grabbed his video camera and filmed the cigar-shaped light for about 15 minutes.

Mr Linnell, 45, of the Lodge Park estate, said: "I first saw it as I locked up my pigeon loft for the night. It was a bright cylinder of light, cigar or saucer-shaped, hovering in the sky.

"I couldn't believe it. At first I just stared at it. Then I went for my video camera and binoculars."

Mr Linnell telephoned the police shortly after he spotted the object at about 11pm last Wednesday and was told an officer and another person had also reported seeing the object.

DURSLEY GAZETTE

13 DEC 96

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By ALLAN GUY

Mr Perrett, a former caretaker at Katharine Lady Berkeley's School, Wotton, said: "Over the past ten years I have seen four other lights at close proximity but this is the first time I have experienced a blue one – the others were red or pink."

Mr Perrett said the solid-looking object took around three seconds to pass over his car at a height of about 25 feet. It appeared to be controlled as it rose in an arc like an aircraft taking off – "It was not a straight trajectory."

"It came over the hedge, slightly climbing and at a terrific speed, right in front of my windscreen," Mr Perrett added.

RETIRED school caretaker Phillip Perrett admits he has been scared stiff by mystery lights he has seen in the Hawkesbury area over the past ten years.

The latest, at 9.40pm on Saturday, November 23, passed within 25 feet of his car as he drove from the A46 towards Hawkesbury Upton.

Mr Perrett was driving to his home in Kingswood near Wotton-under-Edge when he saw the football-sized brilliant light. He wonders if it was the same light seen at 11pm the same day by a woman from Upper Cam.

She was driving up Tait's Hill, Stinchcombe when she saw the light, bright like the spark from a welder's torch.

SLOUGH WINDSOR & ETON EXPRESS

12 DEC 96

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Admit it, someone, there are UFOs about

(personal) *The*

THE term UFO conjures up different visions from little green men visiting earth from faraway planets to hidden, secret service types wearing dark balaclavas, driving matching cars, attending a cover-up highly classified military mission.

The former is straight out of 50s B movies; the latter rapidly gaining credibility.

Earlier this year I interviewed retired Carlisle fireman Jim Templeton. The unassuming and amiable Mr Templeton is famous for a photograph he took of his daughter Elizabeth, in 1964, on Burgh Marsh, eight miles west of Carlisle. The picture was taken by Kodak and produced a spaceman-like figure on the colour print, located just behind the head of the five-year-old child.

It baffled Kodak and legions of experts, all queuing up discredited amateur photogra-

phers, who else in the area at the time. However, soon after the picture was developed two men paid Jim a visit and drove him in their dark Jaguar car to the marsh, which is not far from Chapel Cross Power Station. The men showed him ID cards and claimed to be Government investigators.

They asked some unusual questions about the behaviour of local animals at the time and wanted exact information about the type of weather conditions on the day.

Apparently they became annoyed when Jim dismissed their suggestion that the figure was just an ordinary man in the fields.

They drove off leaving Jim alone with a five-mile walk back to his home.

Apart from Jim's and a few other unex-

plained stories, here in Cumbria we don't appear to have many close encounters, or specific alien sightings.

The Penrith corridor appears to be the North's UFO hot spot.

Although there is one unexplained story in the pipeline.

Meanwhile, as we approach the year 2000, sightings and alien abductions are on the increase with apparently more than 3,500 UFO encounters officially reported by military and aviation pilots.

I have been interested in the so-called UFO phenomenon for as long as I can remember but like many need to see more convincing evidence, not just murky clips of film with barely visible lights leaping around the screen, although I do appreciate that.

But Mr Skidmore, who lives in Inverurie, had a mystery of his own — which appeared to tie in with the Newtonmore sighting. At around the same time on Wednesday night, he said he and his wife had spotted "a bright light going very fast towards Aberdeen".

A keen aircraft enthusiast, he was dubious as to whether what they had seen was a plane. "I'm skeptical about UFOs, but this seemed to be going faster than a normal aircraft."

The Coastguard was also able to confirm details of an incident in Fort Augustus at around 11.30pm in which out of date flares were released from a tug. It attracted two 999 calls.

The police also attended and a Northern Constabulary spokesman yesterday confirmed the matter was being investigated.

He also confirmed that police had received several calls that same night. "We had a number of calls about strange objects in the sky. They came from as far afield as Stornoway, Skye and Cannich."

Mr Skidmore, member of the highly-respected North Lancashire UFO Research Group, recently and seriously featured on a Granada Television two-part, prime-time news slot, agrees.

One from American scientist Bob Lazar, who claims he worked with alien technicians at Area 51, part of Nellis Air Range, in

Nevada, and an incredible tale from a reliable, former U.S. major Robert Dean, who says he read sections of a Cosmic Top Secret NATC-funded document during the 1960s.

But unfortunately no water-tight proof? One of my contacts, Jenny Kondle, author and story consultant on TVs "Strange But True" maintains the strange, hair-shaped object spotted around the Morecambe Bay area and other parts of the UK, is military. "It was 20 years ago," she says. "I was 20 years old then and I officially admitted to myself that I'd seen it." She adds, "I do appreciate that.

Simon Lewis, member of the highly-respected North Lancashire UFO Research Group, recently and seriously featured on a Granada Television two-part, prime-time news slot, agrees.

He believes the British Aerospace Eurofighter operates over Cumbria and North Lancashire and could be mistaken for the

strange, triangular-shaped craft. His sources claim secret 21st century fighters are test-flying over our region using flightpaths to and from an airbase in Scotland. These days

more and more people are giving the whole subject greater thought and whether from a military, alien source or a collaboration between both, the mystery grows.

The recent "Independence Day" blockbuster film, however entertaining, does very little to enhance what is a serious and fascinating subject.

A subject which has for greater implication than most people realise.

If the craft spotted in the now famous Manchester Airport incident is not of alien manufacture and is of terrestrial origin, its

speed (in the region of 5,000 mph) and alleged manoeuvrability proves how technically advanced the scientific establishment has become — and I firmly believe it is just consider the advances in computer technology. If it's true, and I firmly believe it is, just why doesn't someone admit it? At the very least, it would be interesting to know what taxpayers' money is partly used for.

This way I see it, it is becoming more difficult to distinguish between truth and the cutting edge. Maybe a spectacular fly-over Morecambe Bay would suffice!

view

from here

By *Adrian Mulen*

Carlsile firerman Jim Templeton, who is famous for a photograph he took of his daughter Elizabeth, in 1964, on Burgh Marsh, eight miles west of Carlisle. The picture was taken by Kodak and produced a spaceman-like figure on the colour print, located just behind the head of the five-year-old child.

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Cops in 10-mile UFO hunt

TWO started cops chased a speeding UFO for more than 10 miles before losing it over the North Sea.

Sgt Steve King, 28, and PC Andy Collier, 26, gave chase after spotting the string of white and blue and red lights racing across the night sky in North Norfolk but lost contact with the mystery craft near Holt when it accelerated over the sea.

Air traffic controllers at Norwich airport have now logged an official UFO sighting after checking there were no planes in the area.

Fakenham police station received nearly 30 calls from people saying they'd seen the UFO.

But a cop said: "Some said they'd seen a mother ship and little green men as well."

Lights in sky across Highlands

SOMETHING strange was happening in the skies over the Highlands on Wednesday night...

Two people — one of them a Coastguard — reported possible sightings of an unidentified flying object. Inverness police were inundated with calls from Cannich to the Western Isles from members of the public puzzled about glowing lights. And the owner of a tug in Fort Augustus sparked 999 calls when he let off a number of out of date flares.

Newtonmore man John

Martin yesterday said he had been chatting to a friend on the phone at around 10.20pm on Wednesday when he looked up to see "a bright light zooming across the sky towards Aberdeen."

Mr Martin told the Courier: "I said to my friend 'Blimey, I've just seen a UFO!'"

He ruled out the possibility that the strange object was an aircraft as it was moving too quickly and without any noise. "We get a lot of planes flying over here and I know what they

SOMERSET COUNTY GAZETTE

29 NOV 96

RETIRED businessman Raymond Hampson said his days of being a sceptic are over after he saw a UFO circumnavigate Taunton.

Insomniac Mr Hampson, aged 82, of Palmerston Road, Taunton, was awake at 3am last Friday when he heard a droning noise in the sky.

He thought it was an aircraft and stayed in bed but after a while got up to look out of the window.

Mr Hampson told the *County Gazette*: "I couldn't believe what I saw. It was absolutely fascinating.

"I was looking up at this huge object sideways on. It was a large circular object with a ring of blue lights and a much larger wing of orange and red lights.

"The red lights kept flashing. It was so clear I could draw it. I think the object I saw was just camouflage for the larger power unit inside."

Mr Hampson has reported his sighting to the National UFO Society and is hoping to see a local representative this week.

"Seeing this was just as exciting as when I watched tests of planes with no propellers at Farnborough during the Second World War!"

Sightings of UFOs are becoming more commonplace as many people are less afraid to speak out.

This week there were press reports of strange sightings in the Trull area of Taunton kept under wraps since 1962.

ALYSON STOODLEY

The UFO conspiracy?

THE M-FILES



UNIDENTIFIED flying objects are one of the greatest mysteries of modern times.

By: ANDREA THOMPSON

They are on the agendas of national defence and security agencies across the world, and have recently been the subject of widespread concern after claims made by leading UFO-logist Timothy Good and Nick Pope, former head of the Ministry of Defence's UFO desk.

They say the UK's air defences are being routinely breached by extraterrestrial craft of unknown origin with technology vastly superior to our own and which present a serious risk to national security.

UFOs have been a predominant feature of the M-Files – and a recent report on photographs purporting to show a UFO hovering above the Belgrave area of Leicester has further fuelled the search for The Truth about strange aerial phenomena.

Taken by city sky-watcher Minesh Gupta, the pictures – which appear to show two halos of bright, white light –

Maurice, from Beaumont Leys, Leicester, is an active member of BUFORA – the British Unidentified Flying Object Research Association – and has spent many years researching sightings of strange and unexplained phenomena in his pursuit of the truth about aliens.

Unusual

Trained by renowned UFO investigator Jenny Randles, Maurice is firmly convinced that there's life out there – somewhere.

He told the M-Files: "I have always been interested in unusual phenomena ever since I was in the RAF in the 1950s.

"If we can fly at the speed of sound, surely there is something out there, something superior to us.

"And if so many pilots

and astronauts have been prepared to put themselves on the line and say they've seen something, it must be true."

As a BUFORA investigator, Maurice has worked closely with the MOD, which he said has been helpful on most occasions.

"If there is something we shouldn't know, such as unusual aircraft invading our air space, then they clamp down on information.

"There's definitely a

conspiracy going on in the military at the moment."

Through his research, Maurice, 63, claims to have uncovered evidence to suggest that the first astronauts actually witnessed aliens, and that the Nazis were very active in UFO research during World War II.

Closer to home, he himself has witnessed two seemingly unearthly phenomena – one of which he believes was

an alien craft – and regularly investigates sightings in Leicestershire passed on to him from BUFORA headquarters.

If you have any UFO sightings to report, or want more information about BUFORA, you can contact Maurice on 236 5872.

EAST KENT GAZETTE
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I saw six weird discs

Josine Barnes:

"Weird beams:
FRESH reports of a mysterious UFO, spotted earlier this month, have been reported to the *Gazette and Times* after our feature last week.

Mrs Barnes, of Estuary

Road, Sheerness, called the newsroom on Thursday to admit that she had also witnessed the dancing lights in the sky on 1 November.

She added: "I did not want to tell anyone what I had seen, because I just could not believe it. But after seeing your piece and reading of other people's experiences, I realised it did happen!"

Last week, we reported Sherie and Kevin Keeler's experience of seeing

a group of weird lights above Teynham. Mrs Barnes (35), a mature student studying European and business studies, said she had stepped out into her back garden in Sheerness to have a cigarette about 9.30pm, when she saw six disc-shaped lights speeding across the sky.

"They were moving too fast to be

a plane and, in fact, when an aero-

plane did fly past, the lights stopped

dead. The light beams had nothing

connecting them to the ground, as

you would expect with a laser," Mrs Barnes said.

She said the lights appeared to be

spontaneous combustion. Even when

there were no fires visible, there must

have been thermals rising from the

rubbish which had caught fire from

the sky.

"I honestly do not know what they were, but it could not have been laser lights in Maidstone. It is too far away.

They just did not seem to be anything

from this world," she added.

• Readers: Keep those views coming! Write to the Editor or call us on 475411 or 536555.

Alan Rose's solution to UFO mystery

YOUR invitation (*Gazette and Times*, 20 November) for tales of UFOs, prompts me to write of my experience, as well as to give a possible explanation.

In about 1966, I was working at the

bottom of Gas Road, Murston, in

summer time and as I happened to

glance towards Kemistry Mill, I

noticed a strange object in the clear

blue sky. It was motionless, apart

from a peculiar rocking motion. It

seemed to sway from side to side. It

was not fuzzy, as we have grown to

expect UFOs to be, but quite clear.

It was rectangular and as it rocked

back and forth, it changed colour

from white to black.

At first, I could not judge its size,

but then an aircraft appeared from my

right going towards Southend, which

I estimated was flying between

4,000ft and 5,000ft and the object

was lower than that. From this, I

judged the object to be 6ft to 8ft

square.

Older readers will remember that

Burley had a rubbish tip on the

marshes about there and often we

would see smoke arising from the

rubbish which had caught fire from

the sky.

There were no fires visible, there must

have been thermals rising from the

rubbish which had caught fire from

the sky.

tip. So was this mysterious Uniden-

fied Hovering Object a sheet of

paper, or cardboard, creased down

the middle, and supported by the

updraught from Burley's, as a ping-

pong ball is on a jet of water at the

fair? I wish I could say what hap-

pened to it, but can't.

I haven't mentioned this to any-

body else, because it didn't seem very

important, but maybe it's possible

that some of the sightings have

perfectly rational explanations —

has mine.

ALAN D ROSE, Orchard Place, Sittingbourne.

We saw it too!

SIR. After reading your recent article about UFOs over Leicester (M-Files, October 24) I soon realised that I had seen the same 'white lights' the man in the story.

I remember the night vividly, as I had returned home after a night out and was due to go on holiday the next day.

It was at about 11.45pm, on July 14.

My family and I saw

two white ball shapes – they certainly weren't helicopters. I also noticed they were silent.

We watched them for about 15 minutes from our garden, and they seemed to be directly

above our house.

They moved up and down, and from side to side, but never crossed.

As we were so excited about what we were seeing, we didn't notice that they had disappeared in a matter of seconds.

While they were strange objects – UFOs maybe – they were not necessarily aliens.

I have read numerous UFO books, and there have been hundreds of

"... maybe they are some sort of nomads of earth that we don't understand yet."

Michelle Butrone, Aylesbury.

Sleepless nights had a simple explanation

SIR. I entirely agree with Mr Joseph Sope (Mailbox, October 24) about electricity being the cause of humming noise.

For a number of weeks I had difficulty getting off to sleep because of the hum.

If I woke up in the night I could hear it, and attributed the sound to a neighbour, who perhaps might have had a generator running.

I eventually started using ear plugs.

My brother and his wife came from Australia to see me and my sister-in-law. They told me that she had unplugged the clock which was by her bedside because it made a humming noise.

Yes, it was the bedside electric clock which was making the continued hum, but I have discovered that if I put the clock on the bedroom floor there is no noise – it only happens when the clock is on the locker by the bed, level with my ears.

I hope this, and Joseph Sope's explanation, will be of some comfort to other people.

Frank Evans, Enderby.

THE TIMES HIGHER EDUCATION SUPPLEMENT

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ANTITHESIS

Saucery

Mulder and Scully could be interested in strange activities up Lancaster University way, where a UFO society has been founded to cater for the enormous interest in unidentified aerial phenomena that was apparent in and around the university.

The society seeks anyone interested in aliens, UFOs, Government cover-ups and meeting people but warns, 'we are not anoraks'. The society plans to offer lectures, visits to sites of special interest and possibly even encountering the aliens they assure us are indeed out there. Andrew Watson, the encounters secretary, will be responsible for organising those tête-à-têtes with the little green men from Mars. As LUUFOS proclaims: 'The question is not whether they exist, it's what they are.' Lancaster

might do well to capitalise on its lead and explore the possibility of franchising its courses to the other planets in this solar system – and beyond.

SIR. I entirely agree with Mr Joseph Sope (Mailbox, October 24) about electricity being the cause of humming noise.

For a number of weeks I had difficulty getting off to sleep because of the hum.

If I woke up in the night I could hear it, and attributed the sound to a neighbour, who perhaps might have had a generator running.

I eventually started using ear plugs.

My brother and his wife came from Australia to see me and my sister-in-law. They told me that she had unplugged the clock which was by her bedside because it made a humming noise.

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I hope this, and Joseph Sope's explanation, will be of some comfort to other people.

Frank Evans, Enderby.

Technology



Unfortunately, this month our regular Bionic editor – while preparing this month's review on all things alien – has decided that it's all been too much and has gone AWOL. So, at the last minute we went through his computer and dragged up all those silly Internet addresses for you. Take it away...

One of the world's worst kept secrets is the base in Nevada's Groom Lake where the US Government keeps its captured alien craft. They use these craft to develop their new stealth technologies like the recently unveiled Flying Wing and the black project otherwise known as the Aurora. Check it out in one of its many net gurus at <http://www.ufomind.com/area51/>. There are loads of Area 51 sites on the net and they all share a lot of the same photos and information. Why doesn't someone just fly over the blinkin' place eh?

Of course one almost forgets that aliens built the pyramids. From day to day it just slips by that it was our interplanetary cousins who flew to Earth to build a load of – albeit well engineered – great big stone lumps in front of a highly developed civilisation who never once recorded the alien presence. Shucks, my appalling memory, but worry ye not you can always remind yourself of the true creators by checking <http://www.nitt.columbia.edu/students/lieuwan/Pyramids>.

This is all verifiable by the other well known pyramids – the ones on Mars of course you fools. The pyramids and the face on Mars are

THE BIONIC PAGE

Aliens, pyramids and goat suckers

held up as proof of 250,000 year old alien civilisations. As we all know, these highly developed creatures flew all the way to our solar system at great risk to themselves stopping off on the way at Mars (why bother when you've already come so far?). Then they decamped and decided to build – yes you've got it – some pyramids and a giant staring face. Then instead of hanging out and breeding, they flew off again. This watertight theory can be fully developed at <http://www.newsinfo.com/esa/mars/>.

Of course, the big alien story comes from the crash at Roswell. This little number (where an alien craft is supposed to have crashed landed in front of many witnesses and was extremely well reported just after the war) spawned all manner of enquiry. The US Government's explanation that it was a weather balloon never went down well with the UFOs. Now there's the Roswell Autopilot film which was shown on Channel Four and was widely believed to be a fake. Suss that out for yourself at <http://www.computek.net/public/vaughan/alien.html> - Autopilot. It's actually quite a good story and now the weight of evidence suggests the film is real...ish.

There seem to be few sites that really get hold of all the oddness in the UK. Places like Bonnybridge and the west of England where all the UFO sightings are happening don't get too much of a look-in. However,

<http://www.magnet.co.uk/~jmb/um/> and <http://www.netg8.demon.co.uk/> both do their best to redress the balance with the rest of the world. You can even upload your own UFO close encounters. Ooh!

Of course it isn't just the aliens causing all sorts of trouble. Have you heard of the Puerto Rican goat sucker, the Chupacabra? These are really the flavour of the moment in conspiracy/UFO circles. Apparently they like to legit out and eat goats when no one's looking. Find them at <http://www.princeton.edu/~acc/on/chupa.html>.

The Bermuda triangle is always a handy little number, have a flight through it at <http://tigger.cc.ulic.edu/~toby-g/tri.htm>. Then again there is a non-Egyptian mummy of the embalmed variety. Who is she, where did she come from, why does she look like my mummy (sorry mum, anyway, you never read any of my stuff)? Said mummy is at <http://www.caics.com/strangemag/mysterymummy.html>. Or there is always <http://www.omnimag.com/> to get the best from the sci-fi weird science yank mag.

There are also good alien sites at: <http://www.cs.bgsu.edu/~jzawodn/ufos/>, http://www.debshome.com/QuickTime_Video_Page.html – Area 51 Film, <http://www protree.com/npt-ufos/ufos-files/> – lots of stuff, <http://www protree.com/npt-ufos/ufos-files/> – lots of pics but a bit slow, <http://members.aol.com/billh40088/newhome.htm> – nice graphics, <http://www.serve.com/tufop/tuf>

WANTED

FOR ABDUCTION

The Chupacabra Home Page



By Roger Bryson

Daily Post Staff

IT'S bright. It's white. And they say it has taken fleeting residence above a house in Liverpool's Knotty Ash.

It might not be X-Files material but it is being submitted as evidence of Merseyside's UFO credentials.

The object is said to be a UFO in a hurry. It floated in for a couple of minutes before disappearing into the night.

Luckily, for posterity, an 18-year-old student spotted the phenomenon, grabbed a camcorder and captured the 'event' for analysis by UFO experts, although the film quality is too poor to allow reproduction here.

The film was confirmed as genuine, and not the result of an elaborate photographic hoax. But researchers from the British Unidentified Flying Object Research Association (BUFORA) still had to carry out a series of rigorous checks on the footage.

A simple explanation for the light could have been a bright star or planet visible in the night sky.

But astronomical charts for the region and date show there was no chance that the object could have been a heavenly body.

Other possible solutions, such as weather conditions or aircraft, have also been checked and discounted.

An unusual aircraft may also hold the



truth behind a bizarre sighting experienced by a middle-aged woman on Speke Road, Liverpool.

She claims she was forced to drive at 90 mph to escape the attentions of a massive shining disc that followed her car all the way to the Runcorn Bridge.

The witness alleges that the object displayed 'squiggly writing underneath – perhaps the letters of an alien language?'

Despite being within one mile of Liverpool Airport, inquiries aimed at explaining the sighting, as an aircraft have drawn a blank.

The clear night skies also suggest it is unlikely the strange vision can be dismissed as lights reflecting from clouds or other meteorological effects.

Fact or fiction? Tony looks for UFO proof positive

UFO researcher Anthony Eccles is searching for the truth behind the spate of UFO sightings.

He said: 'Of the reports we receive, I would say that 40 per cent are identified, a further 40 per cent remain unidentified because of a lack of information and about 20 per cent remain unidentified despite thorough investigation.'

Mr Eccles, 27, an archaeologist, has followed up around 60 sightings. He starts by contacting the civilian and military air authorities to check for aircraft in the area.

He then consults Bidston

Observatory in Wirral for weather conditions before making a final analysis to compare the position of lights in the sky with things like planets.

Mr Eccles, who lives in Halewood, Liverpool, said: 'Most of the sightings can be solved by very mundane explanations such as aeroplanes or planets.'

However, Mr Eccles also has met witnesses who are still coming to terms with what can be a frightening experience.

He said: 'Some people are traumatised by what they

have seen. The woman who was followed by the disc towards Runcorn actually drove at 90 mph to get away from it in the hope that she would be stopped by the police and that they would help her.'

Mr Eccles said: 'I try to keep an open mind. They could be something extraterrestrial or intra-terrestrial.'

A conference on UFOs is being held at the Haigh Building, Marylebone Street, Liverpool on Saturday, starting at 1pm.

Tonight – the British government's secret X-files.

about 4.30 in the morning my wife called for me to watch this thing and I couldn't see it bright light coming down from the bed.

"It was definitely not a car, motorcycle or searchlight above the ground. I could see it in the dark," he said. "It was a very bright white light but it was certainly not a star."

Mr Prydderch saw from his bedroom window the same light dancing wildly around the sky.

Then, earlier this week, he again saw a light and this time with his wife, her husband and Vale and before the heavy snows on Sunday morning they both watched it move around the sky.

Mr Prydderch said: 'A cloud

Clear skies

'I am sure that it had to be a handily little number, have a flight through it at <http://tigger.cc.ulic.edu/~toby-g/tri.htm>. Then again there is a non-Egyptian mummy of the embalmed variety. Who is she, where did she come from, why does she look like my mummy (sorry mum, anyway, you never read any of my stuff)? Said mummy is at <http://www.caics.com/strangemag/mysterymummy.html>. Or there is always <http://www.omnimag.com/> to get the best from the sci-fi weird science yank mag.'

A spokesman for RAF Valley on Anglesey said: 'A helicopter had taken off from the base of the hilltime but it was a helicopter test flight. I guess a quarter of a mile back again. My wife says that it was a similar kind of light that she saw two years ago. Mrs Prydderch said: 'I was there for about three hours, holding a camera and taking a photograph of an hour and was watching the sky. I guess a quarter of a mile above the ground. I could see the moon, stars and clouds. I could see the sun towards the horizon. I guess it was a helicopter test flight.'

When it moved, it went slowly away and then quickly back again. My wife says that it was a similar kind of light that she saw two years ago. Mrs Prydderch said: 'I was there for about three hours, holding a camera and taking a photograph of an hour and was watching the sky. I guess a quarter of a mile above the ground. I could see the moon, stars and clouds. I could see the sun towards the horizon. I guess it was a helicopter test flight.'

Police helicopter would have been in the area at the time.

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UFO sighting – was it just a lighthouse?

By RICHARD SMITH

EVIDENCE is mounting that a world-famous UFO sighting near Woodbridge was nothing more sinister than lights from a lighthouse or was it?

There are still numerous explanations for the events of Christmas, 1980, when American servicemen claim they saw a "strange glowing object" touching down in Rendlesham Forest close to RAF Woodbridge.

A top-level campaign of disinformation shielding the real truth, the possibility of Russians up to mysterious activities along the Suffolk coast, a fireball in space, the after effects of a boozey Christmas party or just Orford Ness lighthouse beaming away all rank among today's possibilities for the 16-year-old mystery.

The riddle is taking on a new twist with the publication of a book by former MoD employee Nick Pope.

He gives the Rendlesham incident the same billing as the American Roswell mystery, ranking it as one of the top UFO stories of all time.

Americans claim they found a crashed saucer and aliens after the Second World War. No saucers or aliens were discovered near Woodbridge but there were enough clues to make people think the Americans had seen something extremely suspicious on several occasions.

A discussion about the UFO at Rendlesham Forest was organised by Forest Enterprise and attracted many men, women and children still intrigued by the sightings.

Also present were Brenda Butler, of Leiston, who wrote a book about the UFO; astronomer Ian Ridpath and forester Vince Thirkettle who lived in the forest in 1980.

The group was taken to an area where the Americans saw unusual lights and discovered an object which "illuminated the entire forest with a white light."

A report written by deputy base commander at RAF Woodbridge, Lt Col Charles Hall, says: "The object was hovering on legs. As patrols approached it, it manoeuvred through the trees and disappeared. At this time the animals on a nearby farm went into a frenzy. The next day three depressions one and half inches deep and seven inches in diameter were found where the object had been sighted.

Mr Ridpath said: "We are being asked to believe that something was coming back night after night in the same place. Normally, if you see a UFO you only see it once.

"When police came here on the first night they said all they could see was the lighthouse. At 3am a bright

fireball was seen over Britain. Something like this can give the appearance of something coming down quite nearby. Initially what they saw was a bright fireball."

Mr Thirkettle scotched rumours about strange marks after the sightings. He said a forester's axe cutting at trees makes a burn mark; rabbits are responsible for making a depression and trees that died were suffering from Dutch Elm disease.

However a woman, who declined to be named, told how she saw strange lights when she was a pregnant teenager while at a courting couples' spot in Tunstall Forest.

Her boyfriend said it was "the Yanks playing around" but the woman remains convinced they were UFO lights in an area from where you can not see the lighthouse.

Why do touch o

I AM intrigued by your recent reports of UFO sightings. No doubt these people are convinced that there are extra terrestrial objects, or even intelligent beings hovering around the planet Earth.

While not wishing to belittle them in their beliefs, I wonder whether they have ever stopped to consider why there has never been any attempt at radio communication?

Surely, any intelligence sufficiently advanced to cover inter-terrestrial distances would have full knowledge of electromagnetic radiation.

This puzzles me, as apart from UFOs, in spite of the interest shown by the scientific hierarchy in possibility of other intelligent life existing in the universe, and the advanced systems of satellite communications, there is not one shred of evidence of attempts to communicate with us.

If advanced intelligence exists, surely we should have heard something by now. I am a radio ham of many years' standing, and in spite of routine contacts across the world, I have never had any little green men try to talk to me.

R A Knight, Woodland Close, Duston, Northampton.

A COUPLE of steps beyond the line and the welcome amounts to a bullet in the head — and that's official.

It's a God-forsaken piece of earth and in truth, God only knows what is going on below this desert wasteland.

The theories are terrifying and the reality is a mystery to all but a select few. Probably even Bill Clinton doesn't know what the heck is going on in Area 51, which, until a few weeks ago, did not officially exist.

On a need-to-know basis, if the President doesn't know, then he can't lie when asked questions about what really happens in this huge patch of the Nevada Desert, hugged protectively by mountains and guarded zealously by armed security men.

Here, facts are as thin on the ground as watering holes. And when former workers tell you the little they know, they are the subject of dark campaigns to discredit them.

Area 51, known about for several years by specialist researchers, reached the wider public's knowledge when mentioned in the blockbuster movie Independence Day.

But even that was suspected as a government ploy to confuse the issue. Some say that much of the top secret work that undoubtedly went on here has been shifted to a new subterranean site.

What is accepted is that Area 51, some 140 miles north-west of Las Vegas at a point where maps cease to be informative, is home to Groom Lake, which houses a U.S. Air Force base.

Near by is a nuclear test site and the Lockheed Aircraft Corporation centre for the development of spy craft for the Central Intelligence Agency and other futuristic projects. The Stealth bomber was tested here — until recently its existence was denied — and it is obvious that even more futuristic craft are at least on the drawing board. Perhaps some are already on the seven-mile-long runway.

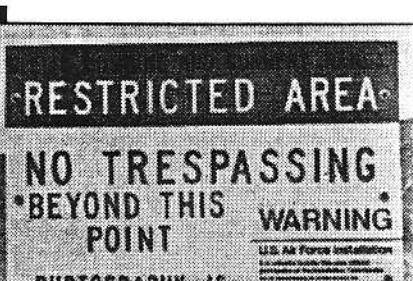
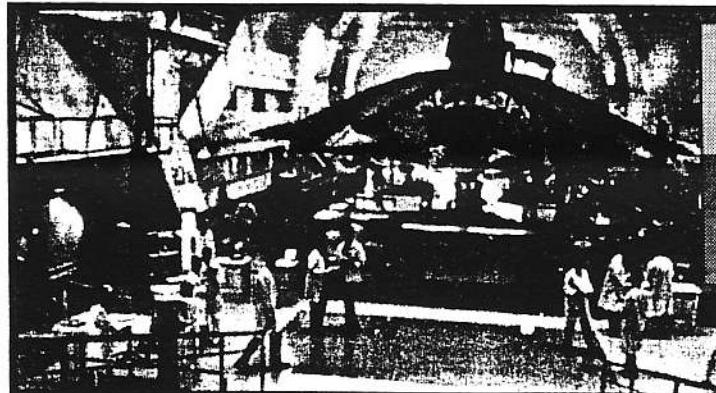
Groom Lake is the supposed testing ground for Project Aurora, the USAF's replacement for the SR-71 spy plane.

Slightly south is S-4, or Dreamland. Ex-workers, highly qualified scientists and intelligence staff, say several flying saucers are kept there.

Investigators claim the conspiracy of silence shields a massive range of strange experiments — projects like mind control, "back-engineering" of crashed UFOs by teams of brilliant physicists to discover how they fly, and breeding hybrids, a blend of aliens and humans.

Files in the possession of BEAMS investigator Kristian Townsend contain details of the claims, secret documents and statements.

Ufologists firmly believe the work is



'No Trespassing' is putting it mildly — for Area 51 in Nevada is one of the most secret places on earth. Left: Research on a space craft in this clip from the movie, Independence Day.

going on in harness with entities like the Greys, beings from the planet Zeta Reticuli who have a pact with world governments to trade technologies for mutual benefit and understanding. They claim similar work is happening here and now in Britain, always a close relative to the U.S., at bases across the Home Counties and Wiltshire. That country is certainly known for its high frequency of UFO sightings.

Take Bob Lazar, a 37-year-old scientific boffin who like most near-genii is a bit of a maverick. He was a contract physicist at Area 51 for five months from December, 1988, to May, 1989, deciphering just what made alien saucers fly.

Because of his outspokenness, he said he had been threatened. Attempts had been made to scare him off. Shots were fired at his car.

But shortly after leaving the base and facing increasing intimidation he burst

into the open, describing the S-4 site next to Papoose Lake in Area 51. He said alien craft were stored there and he claimed he had been part of a team of 22 engineers given the task of working out how their propulsion systems operated.

S-4, he said, was an underground complex which occupied a whole mountain range. He thought he was simply working with advanced man-made technology, until he entered one of the ships.

"It had no physical seams, no welds or bolts or rivets," he said. "Everything had a soft round edge, as if it was made of wax and heated for a time and then cooled off." The propulsion unit was cricket-ball sized, radiating an anti-gravity field through a hollow column.

His briefing papers confirmed his suspicions. They concerned UFO information, including autopsies of small grey beings with big hairless heads. The papers talked about their origins in the Zeta Reticuli star system.

Also mentioned was an alleged incident in 1979 during which aliens killed

security guards and scientists at the base.

Lazar was in no doubt: "I was working with an alien craft, produced by an alien intelligence with alien materials."

One day he glimpsed two men in white lab coats "looking down and talking to something small with long arms. I don't know what on earth that was."

When Lazar "came out", more than a dozen other former workers summoned the bravery to support him.

Many people try to get close to Area 51. They hide in the neighbouring Jumbled Hills and Groom Mountains — at least they did until they were also ruled off-limits a few years ago. Air space above the site is a no-go area.

Robert Dean is a former U.S. army infantry commander who rose to a top role as an intelligence analyst with the Supreme Headquarters of Allied Powers in Paris during 27 years of service.

"Although I am breaking my oath of national security, I am not doing it lightly. I do it for one specific reason," he says. "The UFO matter with all its implications is the most important issue to face humanity. I can't in good conscience keep my mouth shut."

He says there is a cosmic conspiracy to keep mankind in the dark. There is, he alleges — because he saw and worked it — a joint-governmental file called the Assessment. This concludes that the earth is under constant surveillance as part of a survey of comparative civilisations, conducted by higher intelligences.

One of the Assessment's conclusions is that the visitors are not malevolent; they are, mankind is powerless to prevent their doing anything they wish.

Ufologists say that although the US may be leading in the experiments with aliens, Britain has a role to play. They claim that UFOs are often seen in areas of high military sensitivity, like Chicksands in Bedfordshire and RAF Rudloe Manor in Wiltshire.

STAGGERED saucer spotters are on a high after a record six separate sightings of UFOs were recorded in Gloucestershire last week.

Interest has rocketed because of the alien blockbuster film Independence Day and cult TV series The X-Files.

And UFO watchers expect even more strange encounters with the first International Sky Watch Weekend starting in the county today.

One of the most peculiar incidents was spotted about 700 feet up, between Newent and Upleadon, when a small orange oval was seen to move in a left to right sweeping motion.

Experts believe this week's activity is not part of the meteor showers which have been spotted outside Gloucestershire.

Four eerie white lights were seen over Northway, Tewkesbury. There was a strange object over Bourton-on-the-Water and three UFO sightings in Cheltenham.

Members of Cheltenham-based group Circular Forum will be looking skywards tonight and tomorrow, and urged others to get involved.

Robin Cole, the forum's lead investigator, said the organisation was stunned to get six reports in a week. It normally gets that number in a year.

"This year's Sky Watch comes at a time of increasing UFO reports across the globe and the UK," he said.

"Gloucestershire is clearly in on the action. People have come forward with some very interesting reports over the last few months, which we are currently following up."

The Newent sighting took place at about 9.15pm on Wednesday.

FOLLOWING last week's revelations of strange sightings above Bexleyheath, more people have come forward, all claiming similar experiences. Tony Stubley from Bexleyheath who investigates such sightings, said: "Last August there were five sightings in the borough, ranging from pulsating lights in the sky to a golden wing. That's one I saw. It was probably more an atmospheric thing than anything else."

"They were at all times of the day. Two were head-

ing from Bexley to Dartford, one above

Bromley and another two, one heading towards Dartford and one coming back the other way."

People contacted Mr. Stubley through UFO Magazine.

"UFO Magazine organised a national sky watch and several people contacted me as a result of that.

"I'll round and speak to the witnesses, get their details, let what they saw, take an account of weather conditions. We record it, see if there's a pattern or an object that keeps being seen."

"I'm currently investigating a case from 1995 for a lady who used to live in the borough, now in Wales. She and I, two other people saw craft land in Bexley."

All of the other sightings involved strange lights in the sky, usually white and motionless for some time before somehow appearing.

Margaret Churchill, New Eltham, claimed to see a strange light over Bexleyheath.

She said: "Earlier this year I watched this bright

light as I went upstairs and watched it for about

seven minutes, thinking it was a plane but there was

no movement at all."

"It was exactly as Captain Biggar described, a

complete mystery," New Eltham, claimed to

see a strange light over Bexleyheath.

Welch in Bexley signed the London-bound A2

motor months ago.

She recalled: "Over the hedge there was this mas-

sive object with lots of lights and as it came closer

it was a long saucer with a pointed top an-

bottom in a sort of diamond shape. It was absolutely

still in the sky."

One of the most intriguing UFO sightings was made by a soldier, based in Dymchurch, two years ago

and now living in the factory area.

Video footage, which the soldier, who asked to

remain anonymous, handed to the Times shows no

object flying above woodland.

The latest footage follows a canard-type hand-d

to the Times last week, showing three black objects

flying above the town for about 10 minutes before

disappearing.

"An orange light, in the shape of a rugby ball was seen going backwards and forwards across the sky from right to left," said Mr Cole.

"It was reported to us by a lady walking her dog. She said it looked just about the size of a 10p piece."

Circular Forum operates a 24-hour hotline, 0973 778906, for UFO reports.

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Stenhousemuir woman spots another UFO

A STENHOUSEMUIR woman has been stunned by her SECOND encounter with a UFO this year.

Margaret Ross baffled experts with her video footage taken over Falkirk in April.

Now she has captured a glowing ball of light on her camcorder again.

The 63-year-old grandmother said:

"This time I just couldn't believe it. I had thought it was a one off, and

when I saw it again I was thrilled.

"The tape has gone to Stirling University and Glasgow University and the experts are amazed."

The latest sighting was around 6 a.m. on September 27, exactly five months after she last spotted the

shape. Margaret's daughter also saw the object.

The bright oval shaped light has diagonal stripes across it.

Margaret said: "I have no idea what it was, it was still a UFO. Hopefully I will find out — I would like to know."

Her latest 40-minute video could be a spaceship say experts.

Ron Halliday of the Scottish Earth Mysteries Research Group would not rule out the spaceship theory.

He said: "I have never seen anything like it. I have watched the video

a few times and it is really quite intriguing. The next thing is to carry out a frame-by-frame analysis to try to get a clear picture of what it actually is."

Mr Halliday said the group was being very cautious. "But one thing we must consider is something strange from another planet. As far as we are concerned at the moment, this was a UFO."

The truth is out there . . .

A COTSWOLD milkman has backed up a Harvington woman's claim that she saw an UFO.

In last week's *Journal*, Jane Thompson said she was left scared and mystified after seeing 'weird' lights in the sky while driving from Harvington to Bidford on November 11. Steve Magee says he also saw the lights later that night while on his milk round in the Chipping Campden area.

Mr Magee, from Moreton, said: "There were 16 lights. I saw them on and off regularly between 4am and 6am. The police said they may have been laser lights but surely not at that time on a Monday night. I've been doing my round for 15 years and I've never seen anything like it."

● Last week, police in the Midlands were inundated with calls about strange lights in the sky.

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SCUNTHORPE EVENING TELEGRAPH

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YOU may think little green men are the fiction of fertile imaginations — but not according to a Bottesford woman.

The 35-year-old woman, who does not wish to be named, claims to have an alien spacecraft hovering in the sky near her home.

And now the Ministry of Defence say they are taking sightings seriously and have confirmed a number of UFO sightings around the Humber area on the same evening.

The woman and her mother say they potted in the "spaceship" on three occasions in the same week over Bottesford in October.

Ministry of Defence experts said a file was kept on all reports of such sightings nationally and this one could join them.

The object was dome shaped with three lights on the bottom which "twinkled like stars", the woman said.

At the first sighting, last month, the woman's mother spotted the craft hovering outside her bedroom window at 4am for about 15 minutes.

The following night, at the same time,

both mother and daughter saw the same phenomenon for 20 minutes.

The UFO hovered for about 10 minutes before shooting up and down and zig-zagging from side to side at high speed before changing form into a cigar shape.

The woman took photographs but the whole film was blank when it was printed.

IS IT OUT OF THIS WORLD OR ARE THEY JUST OUT OF THEIR MINDS?

After mysterious sightings were seen over Scunthorpe, Evening Telegraph reporter SARAH ARNOLD seeks to find out if the truth is out there.

On the third occasion, a couple of days later, her husband also saw the craft hovering further away.

The woman said: "What ever was in the sky I have never seen anything like it in my life.

"At first I was scared to look out of the window as all the hairs on the back of my neck were prickling.

"But when I looked I was mesmerised by what I saw — I couldn't take my eyes off it."

MOD spokesman for the RAF, Nigel Sergeant, said around 300 such reports are received each year from members of the public, air traffic control and RAF bases.

He said: "There were a couple of sightings in Humberside on October 4 but we cannot be precise where.

"The description was not the same as the Bottesford sighting and as far as we are concerned we have confirmed them as having no hostile intent."

He said there have been a number of sightings nationally that cannot be explained.

"We take UFO sightings seriously but only in so far as to establish whether or not they represent a security threat to this country," he said.

"But we don't take any further interest in what they might be. Sometimes in checking out what their apparent intent is we find out what they are."

He said many UFO sightings can often be explained by phenomenon in the sky.

"There are all sorts of likely explanations for them — they could be like bright planets low in the sky — Venus is a well known offender."

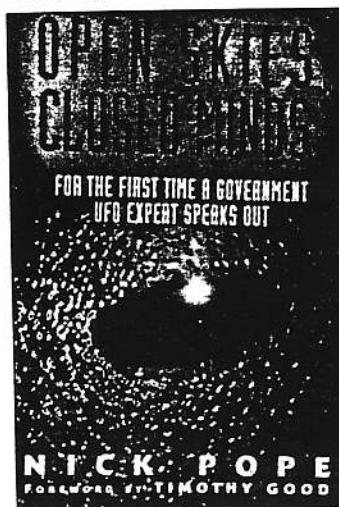
"Lights on the ground can also bounce off low cloud and helicopters are sometimes not heard if there is other surrounding noise causing confusion."

Sceptic now a UFO believer

By: ANDREA THOMPSON

FOR fans of the paranormal and all those convinced that there's something out there, Open Skies, Closed Minds is the ultimate read – especially because it's written by Britain's real-life Fox Mulder, Nick Pope.

As well as providing a detailed overview of the UFO phenomenon, the book lifts the lid on the Government's 'X-Files', revealing for the first time exact-



FOR THE FIRST TIME A GOVERNMENT
UFO EXPERT SPEAKS OUT

NICK POPE
Foreword by TIMOTHY GOOD

ly how the MoD tries to get to grips with the UFO issue.

The M-Files spoke to Nick Pope about his three years assigned to Secretariat (Air Staff) 2A – known to insiders as the UFO desk – at the Ministry of Defence's London headquarters.

He was responsible for investigating and handling policy on UFO sightings, with a brief to evaluate whether there was any evidence of a threat to the United Kingdom.

Having started out as a sceptic, he went on to become a believer in the reality of UFOs, and in his book he relates how

he carried out investigations into sightings – including reports from military personnel.

Pope says: "When I first took up my post, I knew very little about UFOs. Then as I read the real X-Files, as I talked to trained observers, pilots and

radar operators I realised this was real. The evidence was just too overwhelming for any other explanation."

Often regarded as a maverick in Whitehall, Pope reveals evidence that our air defences are being regularly breached by extraterrestrial craft, and exposes the fundamental weakness of the official response to UFOs.

Open Skies, Closed Minds
is published by Simon & Schuster, priced £14.99.



Do you have an M-Files story to tell?

DO you know of an unexplained incident or strange sighting we might be able to feature in our M-Files series? If so, contact the Newsdesk on Leicester 222 4600.

Lights in sky could be UFO

A man who woke up to see two strange lights darting around in the sky believes he has seen a UFO.

Supermarket manager Derek Hunt, 27, claimed to have spotted the lights when he got out of bed yesterday at about 6.20am.

He said they were in the sky to north of his house in Quedgeley, moving at high speed towards the east.

Mr Hunt said: "At first I thought they were either satellites or shooting stars. I realised they were not when the top one began moving up and down.

"The bottom one dipped and rose less erratically.

"There were several puffy clouds and I noticed when the lights passed under one the glow from them reflected in the cloud.

"An aircraft isn't capable of moving that quickly.

"I believe the lights I saw were the underside of something larger."

Mr Hunt said he watched the lights for about three to five seconds then saw them again at about 6.55am.

A spokesman for Cheltenham-based UFO research group, the Circular Forum, said he believed the lights could be a probe from outer space.

Higher profile for UFO research

SIR, — Please allow me to introduce myself, I am the Regional Investigations Co-ordinator for the British UFO Research Association in the Scottish Borders. At the moment we need to try and maintain our high profile as a national UFO association and most certainly can be approached to offer suggestions or explanations for various sightings that are now being reported, in addition to providing background data on the subject.

The British Unidentified Flying Object Research Association operates under a strict code of confidentiality and investigators must complete and pass a six month postal training course in addition to submitting a case file to the National Investigations Co-ordinator before they earn the

distinction of Accredited Investigator. It must also be made aware to you that BUFORA do not under any circumstances practise the use of hypnosis.

I do hope this letter to you will help us to elevate our profile as a National organisation and when information or assistance is required, BUFORA will be contacted as a matter of course.

GEORGE NIEDZWIEDZ,
Regional Investigations
Co-ordinator (Scottish Borders),
BUFORA,
Cairn-Dhuna,
School Road,
Coldingham,
Berwickshire.

UFOs 'collided over islands'

● A MYSTERY mid-air explosion over the Outer Hebrides two months ago could have been UFOs colliding, says an ex-MoD investigator. But Nick Pope's claim – in *UFO Magazine* – was rubbished by the RAF.